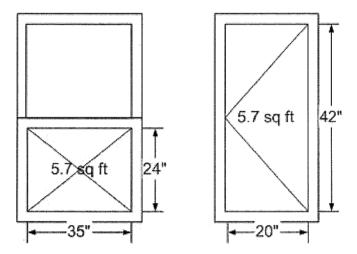
BASEMENTS EGRESS WINDOW



Minneapolis Department of Inspections Informational Bulletin 2000 IRC Revised August 2005

Newly install egress windows shall meet all of the following requirements:

- 5.7 ft2 (821 in2) overall minimum net clear opening (measured in the open position see illustration)
- 20" minimum net clear opening width
- 24" minimum net clear opening height
- Maximum height from finished floor to finished sill of escape-rescue window is 44"



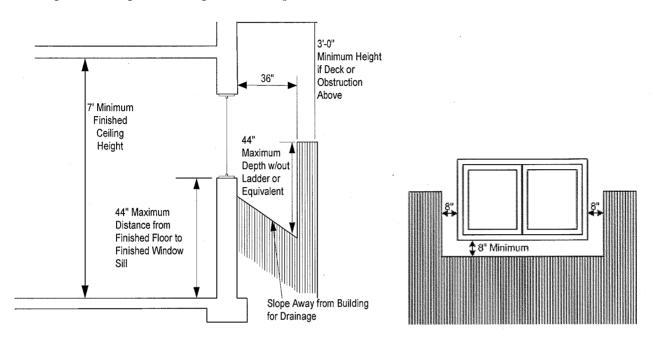
Bars, grilles, grates or similar devices may be installed on emergency escape windows, doors or window wells, provided:

- The devices are equipped with approved release mechanisms which are open-able from the inside without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort; and
- The building is equipped with smoke detectors installed in accordance with Section 317.
- Specific security grill systems require approval by the Department of Inspections prior to installation.

Escape and rescue windows with a finished sill height below the adjacent ground elevation shall have a window well. Window wells at escape or rescue windows shall comply with IRC R310:

• The clear horizontal dimensions shall allow the window to be fully opened and provide a minimum accessible net clear opening of 9 square feet with a minimum dimension of 36 inches.

- Window wells with a vertical depth of more than 44 inches shall be equipped with an approved, permanently affixed ladder or stairs that are accessible with the window in the fully open position. The ladder or stairs shall not encroach into the required dimension of the window well by more than 6 inches.
- Window well must extend at least 8" beyond each side of the window to provide a wood/earth separation to prevent rot per IRC Chapter 323.



NOTE: A permit to install an egress window in no way allows creation of an additional dwelling unit, nor does it make a basement bedroom legal that was built without a permit. Additional permits are required for other modifications to the basement, for example, to finish a room, add a bedroom, or to add a dwelling unit.